# Socialist Worker

# Bosnia:
# UN - NO SOLUTION

The war in Bosnia has now been going on longer than World War I. Tens of thousands have been killed. Many more have been maimed and injured. Hundreds of thousands have been forced to flee their homes.

The reality of so-called "Ethnic Cleansing" is murder, rape and the systematic persecution of people on the basis of their national identity.

Despite shedding crocodile tears, western powers, including Ireland have done their best to refuse entry to refugees fleeing from the war. Ireland and Western governments should open their gates to all war refugees.

The horror in Bosnia leads many people to believe greater western intervention is needed. But their hypocrisy over refugees should make it clear that the super-power dominated UN is not part of the solution.

The French leader Chirac is in favour of sending in more troops. He is also the man who is about to restart nuclear weapon testing in the South Pacific.

Vance-Owen and other UN sponsored peace plans have further encouraged "ethnic cleansing" by accepting the logic of an ethnic carve-up.

It also wrong to portray this as a war of "good guys"(Bosnians and Croats) against "bad guys"(Serbs).

All sides have engaged in ethnic cleansing and whipping up nationalist hatred.

The Croatian leader Tudjman deliberately whipped-up ethnic hatred by adopting the flag and symbols of the Ustashe(Nazi collaborators in WW2) for the newly formed Croatia. Tudjman and the Serbian leader Milosevic began the war by drawing up a plan to divide Bosnia between them.

Nor or the Bosnian government innocent. Isetbegovitch, the Bosnian leader is part of a party that is exclusively Muslim. The first round of ethnic cleansing this spring was carried out by Bosnian Muslim nationalists around Zenica.

Izetbegovitch has from the beginning accepted the idea of an ethnic partition of Bosnia.

The real soulution to the war in Bosnia will only come when ordinary Croats,Muslims and Serbs unite against leaders who wish to divide them. Mass desertions by Serbian soldiers and significant anti-war demos in Serbia and Croatia indicate that this process is already underway.

Pouring more arms into the conflict will only prolong the war and reinforce natioanlism on all sides.

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